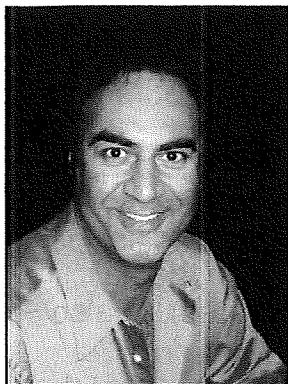


POINTS ON THE CLIFFS

oPresident's Report



As President of the Association, I am thrilled to inform everyone that 2020 is almost over! The last several months have been trying for us all. Among the issues the Board had to deal with—aside from the obvious—is the willow tree being damaged and leaning precariously with the fear that its total collapse would cause further damage. It had always been a controversial tree inasmuch as some residents wanted it removed because it blocked their view of the lake. Others enjoyed the tree and wanted it preserved. Well, an arborist examination solved the issue: the tree was unhealthy after the storm damage and had to be removed. As it turns out, however, very few companies were able to safely remove the tree given its location. We finally identified a company, but they were backlogged for over two months. Alas, it was finally

removed and we had the tree stub cut so that a future table or other gathering place may be constructed with it. Look for that in the spring.

Another tumultuous event the Board had to deal with this fall was a resident who was having an unprecedented number of unruly guests. Obviously we're protective of people's privacy, but if you live anywhere near this resident, you know there were numerous people smoking, drinking, yelling, etc., not only at the residence but on the balcony and the parking lot. This happened throughout the late night hours and lasted for over two weeks—stemming from a family gathering grieving over a loved one. I received numerous calls to “do something.” Unfortunately, whatever remedies the Board can issue take time—they're not designed to stop disturbances immediately in the middle of the night. Our remedies include warning letters, escalating fines, and even forced eviction. However, as mentioned, these take time to implement. People were advised to call the Sheriff's Department and several residents did make that call. I mention this incident to assure residents that the Board was aware of the continuing disturbance and was taking action—even if it was not immediately apparent. In any case, the gatherings have stopped and we're back to our mostly peaceful community.

Another sad note for 2020 was the passing away of long-time Board member Will Iglkowski. In recognition of his years of dedicated service to the Community, a plaque was ordered and it will be added to the bench already placed on our property when Estelle Dunlap passed away. Hopefully you can enjoy the view in honor of both of these Board members.

Finally, to end on a positive note, is it me or are the Christmas lights this year particularly spectacular? It will be sad to see them removed after the season, but it will be a symbol that a new year has begun. Let's hope it's a great one! 🦢

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◦Condo Consumer Corner

The Muove Under Door Draft Stopper. (\$9.99 Amazon)




Because we live at such close quarters two of the concerns we have are noise and smells. Draft stoppers on our front doors could help. A draft stopper is inexpensive, passive (once installed it works without action from you), and if you AND your neighbors use them offer redundant insulation from noise, odors, and heat transfer.

I bought the Muove Under Door Draft Stopper to test this idea. This handy little thing is a fabric sleeve with two foam tubes that slides under your front door and stops air movement between the outside hallway and your entryway. (I wish I'd thought of this when I lived in the dorms...)

It's inexpensive and can be cut to fit your door. It has twin foam pads, inside and outside, to block airflow. It stops drafts. It reduces noise *from* the hall

AND noise I leak *into* the hall (which saves aggravation and relations with my hall-mates). It also reduces odor transfer (from smoking, cooking, and pets.)

If everyone installed these, the communal hallways would be quieter and smell better. Your unit would be less drafty, you'd swap less cooking, smoking, pet odor and pet hair with your hall mates, and it'd be quieter in your house too. 

◦Community Directory

The Board has been talking about producing a phone book of our Residents. It would include cell phone numbers and email addresses of all our neighbors at COPD2 and serve as a master list for instantly communicating to everybody at once in case of Emergencies. It would also help us connect to one another.

A Master List would help in emergencies by enabling us to quickly text EVERY resident at the same time for events such as fires, hazardous materials trouble, or Amber Alerts.

For Residents, the list would be a good old fashioned Phone Book. This speaks to *Cultivating Community*. We really should all be able to pick up the phone and *talk or text each other*: "Hi, on my walk this morning I noticed your tire was low on air, thought you'd like to know." "Hey, I'm heading to the store, you need anything?" "A friend dropped off some tomatoes and I can't use them all, would you like some?"

Stuff Like That. 

◦Plugging In

We have several resources available to help us communicate with each other and Kramer Triad Management. Bookmark the Townsquare and COTP2 web addresses listed below. Townsquare has an app for your phone that is really useful. If you have a Facebook account join our Cliffs Dwellers group there. More detailed explorations of these tools will be offered soon.

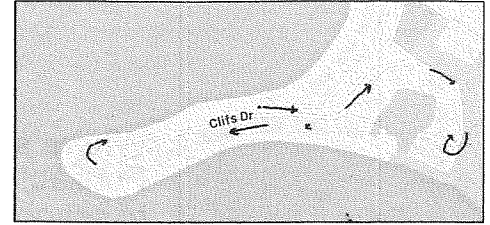
Associa Kramer Triad portal - Town Square - www.townsq.io

Our Web Page - www.cliffsonthepoint2.com

Cliffs Dwellers Facebook Group Page

◦ **Cultivating Community at the Cliffs**
Walking, Gaming, Cinema, and Exercise

Walking - In April we began a walking group to get outside, see some familiar masked faces, get our steps in, and breath air we hadn't breathed 4 times already. The route runs to the end of Northpoint, back through the lots of COTP2 and the Landings, then to the East end of the property by the gully and back. 4 laps is more than enough to claim a 5K walk. We've been doing this every day starting at 9am in front of D Building. Watch the Cliff Dwellers Facebook Group Page for more news of the walks.



Gaming - We don't have a good place to hang out and enjoy each other. The pool area, while handy, is a shared facility and is mainly - well - a pool area. The landings have a yard and picnic tables, and Northpoint has quite a bit of lawn around their places. But our lawns run downhill at 80° and our parking lots are also part of the street... *except in front of D-Building.*

Chundra and I thought we'd ask a few folks to move their cars from under the Car Ports of D-Building so we could gather *in the shade* and do some old fashioned goofing off. Without cars the carports are just like Pavilions at Public Parks.

Carport Casino was born! On a Sweltering Saturday afternoon in August we moved some cars, set up some electric fans, and invited folks to play Bingo.

People brought Masks, chairs, treats, and drinks for the first Bingo game and it was TONS of fun. Lots of laughing, drinking, and smack-talking. We soon changed to a game called Pokeno which is a tad more involved than Bingo and loads of fun. Carport Casino was on Saturdays at 4 pm and we plan to resume as soon as weather allows. Start gathering nickels now!



Cinema - or, *Chundra at the Movies!* We really missed going to the Theater so we thought a bit about how to safely screen films outside and invite the neighbors for movie fun. Chundra bought a projector and a little screen. I used a guitar amp for a movie sound and we had folks down to the pool deck for two outdoor Friday Night Movies in the Fall. We showed The Proposal and Mad Money. It was a blast.

Chundra popped for snacks, volunteers helped set-up and clean-up after, and everything went perfectly. We put out a donations jar at the snack table and people were generous enough to toss in a bit of money to help the cause and perpetuate snack provisions. We look forward to our first 2021 Movie Night. We'll let you know when.



Exercise - Our neighbor Laura Main, a fitness and activity professional, held a number of fun and invigorating afternoon Yoga classes on the lawn in front of F Building during the summer. Ms. Main also held an aquatic aerobics session in the pool that folks really liked. We're grateful for her contributions to our community fitness and hope to take advantage of her good nature again...



These events all happened through Community Action, not Board Action. People volunteered their abilities and a few bucks to make our life a little better here at The Cliffs.

Bravo Citizens!



◦Five Questions With Dan Blakeney



Where's Home?

Pontiac, Michigan. I went to Pontiac Central High and came to Ypsilanti to go to school at EMU in 1976. Mom and Dad *swiftly* retired and moved to Florida ruining my plans of boomeranging back to their place.

How long have you lived here at Cliffs on the Point 2?

I bought the place in December 2012 and moved in January 2013. Before that I rented for a number of years (way too many) about a mile east on Grove. This is my best home yet.


What do you do for fun?

My work is (was) the most enjoyable part of my life. I'm a TV Camera operator and have enjoyed shooting sports for broadcast for most of my adult life. I would rather spend a day as cameraman than anything else. BUT - that is not happening much lately. Outside of that I am a student of photography and I am a student of the guitar. I take a good picture now and then - I am a terrible guitar player.

What is your Superpower?

I'm levelheaded and for the most part unflappable. I also believe myself to be very funny - this has not born out in social experiments, but I do cling to that belief.

What is your favorite part of living here?

Tie: The Lake View and The People. I like that it feels very woodsy, very "*Up North*" here, but I can be Downtown in 10 minutes or so. I like the community too. Our recent walking group and the Movie Nights and Carport Casino in front of D-Building have all been a definite enhancement of my life here at The Cliffs. 

◦Wilhelmina Wilma Wynona Willow

Longtime Cliffs Resident Wilhelmina "Wilma" Wynona Willow passed away this summer. Actually she became old and infirm and had to be euthanized - but lets not dwell on that. The Tree Doctor who presided over her diagnosis said Ms. Willow was "not as old as she looked." Which was a terrible thing to say, however true.

There is no certainty about Wilma's age. She was here when the original shoreline sidewalks and breakwaters were constructed. So she was an established adult tree as of 1968.

She was a springtime favorite of Male Northern Cardinals who would perch high in her branches every year and sing loudly to attract mates. Each summer days twilight found her a convenient temporary perch for dozens of Barn Swallows who darted about above the lakeside lawns feeding on flying insects. She sang loudly often when filled with the winds coming ashore off the lake.

She was a majestic sight on our shore for many decades and will be missed by many. Plans are being entertained to do something creative and fitting with the stump she leaves behind. Its hoped a lasting presence can be crafted to honor Wilma's memory. 